

CREATION OF A CUSTOMIZED COMMAND ENVIRONMENT

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RELATED APPLICATION

This application relates to U.S. Patent Application "Passing Parameters to an External Command via the Command Environment", by James M. McArdle (IBM Dkt. No. AUS920010927), filed concurrently herewith.

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FIELD OF THE INVENTION

The present invention relates generally to a technique for customizing the command environment.

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BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

In many programming applications it often becomes necessary to invoke an external command to perform a specific task. Most languages such as C, C++, and Java provide an API to launch an external command. You may choose to either use the existing command environment established at the time you launched your application or you may create a specific restricted environment for the external command. However, the API does not provide a means to "add-to" the existing command environment.

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There is a need for a means whereby programmers can “add-to” the existing command environment and then launch the external command using that environment.

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SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

One aspect of the present invention is a method of creating a customized command environment. An external command will be launched from the programming application to capture a system command environment. This
10 system command environment will be stored in an array of strings. At least one parameter string will be added to the array of strings. The command will be linked to the command environment with the added parameter string.

Another aspect of the present invention is a computer usable medium launching an external command from the programming application to capture a
15 system command environment; storing the system command environment in an array of strings; adding at least one parameter string to the array of strings; and linking the command environment with the added parameter string.

Another aspect of the present invention is a system for saving selected portions of a Web page to a client local storage comprising means for launching
20 an external command to capture a system command environment; storing the system command environment in an array of strings; adding at least one parameter string to the array of strings; and linking the command to the command environment with the added parameter string.

The foregoing and other features and advantages of the invention will
25 become further apparent from the following detailed description of the presently preferred embodiment, read in conjunction with the accompanying drawings. The detailed description and drawings are merely illustrative of the invention rather than limiting, the scope of the invention being defined by the appended claims and equivalents thereof.

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BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

FIG. 1 is a flow chart illustrating one embodiment of a method for creating a customized command environment in accordance with the present invention;

FIG. 2 is a code sample illustrating one embodiment of a method for
5 invoking a command to create a customized command environment in accordance with the present invention;

FIG. 3 is a code sample illustrating one embodiment of a method for capturing the default system environment in accordance with the present invention; and

10 **FIG. 4** is a block diagram illustrating one embodiment of a system for creating a customized command environment in accordance with the present invention.

15 DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE
PRESENTLY PREFERRED EMBODIMENTS

Referring to **FIG. 1**, one embodiment of a method for creating a customized command environment is generally shown at numeral **10**. This example shows a method of creating customized command environment to be used from a programming application. An external command may be launched to capture a system command environment, (**Block 11**). This command may be
20 any valid command on the operating system being used. Once this command is invoked, the system command environment may be launched. The system command environment may be stored in an array of strings, (**Block 12**). The array of strings is a data type that may be used to organize the information in
25 memory. At least one parameter string may be added to the array of strings, (**Block 13**). The command may be linked to the command environment with the added parameter string, (**Block 14**). Whenever the command is launched the customized command environment may be invoked rather than the system command environment.

Referring to **FIG.2**, one embodiment of a method for invoking a command to create a customized command environment is generally shown at numeral **20**. Using programming languages known in the art, one implementation of passing
5 parameters within a customized command environment may be used for running IBM's WebSphere Commerce Analyzer Configuration program, which launches vendor provided command scripts

At **Block 25** vendor parameters are added into the array of strings that is used to store the customized command environment. At **Block 30** the code adds
10 specific product parameters into the array of strings that is storing the customized command environment. **Block 30** then invokes the loadEnvp command to create the customized command environment with the added parameters. **Blocks 35** and **40** get the command ready to execute. **Block 50** runs the command with the customized command environment, including the added parameters.

Referring to **FIG. 3**, one embodiment of a method for capturing the default system environment is generally shown at numeral **60**. Using programming languages known in the art, one implementation of the creation of a command environment may be used for running IBM's WebSphere Commerce Analyzer Configuration program, which launches vendor provided command scripts.
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At **Block 65** the operating system running on the current server is determined. Separate code will be executed depending on which operating system is being used. At **Blocks 65** and **70**, AIX specific code is used to capture the system command environment. If AIX is not the current operating system, **Blocks 75** and **80** will be executed to capture the system command environment
20 for Windows operating systems. Finally, at **Blocks 85** and **90** the environment will be read back from memory and stored in an array of strings.

Referring to **FIG. 4**, one embodiment of a system for passing parameters within a customized command environment is generally shown at numeral **110**. In this example, the shown system may be a general network comprising clients
30 and servers. This network, **120**, may provide communication links between various devices and computers connected together within this environment.

Network **120** may include permanent connections, such as wire or fiber optic cables, or temporary connections made through telephone or wireless communications.

5 In the example shown, one or more servers, depicted at **130** and **131**, may be used for running network software applications. Clients **140**, **141**, and **142** may also exist within the environment and may represent individual users on the system.

10 While the embodiments of the present invention disclosed herein are presently considered to be preferred, various changes and modifications can be made without departing from the spirit and scope of the invention. The scope of the invention is indicated in the appended claims, and all changes that come within the meaning and range of equivalents are intended to be embraced therein.

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